



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT**  
**600 ARMY PENTAGON**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0600**

Base Realignment and Closure Division

**SEP 13 2016**

Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Enforcement, Compliance, and Environmental Justice  
Attn: Kelly Bunker  
Region 3 PCB Coordinator  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19103

Dear Ms. Bunker:

The purpose of this letter is to provide the Environmental Protection Agency with notification of a Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) Self-Implemented Clean-up action at the Building 88 transformer vault at the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC), located at 6900 Georgia Ave, NW Washington DC. See figure 1 for Building 88's location. The transformer within the vault is non-PCB containing with a manufacture date of 1992, and is no longer active. The transformer was drained of its dielectric fluid. WRAMC assumes the current transformer replaced a PCB containing transformer. There is no data available for the former transformer. The area around Building 88 will be transferred to the District of Columbia Local Redevelopment Authority for residential reuse.

During a sampling event completed in 2006, the transformer vault at Building 88 was sampled for PCBs using standard wipe methodology. The results indicated that PCB surface contamination existed at levels greater than 10  $\mu\text{g}/100\text{ cm}^2$ . See Table 1 below for the 2006 wipe sample results.

Table 1. Building 88 Vault Wipe Samples (2006)

<b>Sample Number</b>	<b>Result (<math>\mu\text{g}/100\text{ cm}^2</math>)</b>
RAR-W09	6.7
RAR-W11	9.4
RAR-W12	8.7
RAR-W13	12.4
RAR-W14	10.1

In 2016, Building 88's vault was identified to contain a drain during a transformer inspection. Due to the drain, WRAMC conducted soil sampling around the vault to determine if there was a presence of PCBs in the soil. See Table 2 for results.

Table 2. Building 88 Soil Results

<b>Sample Location</b>	<b>Sample Depth (Feet)</b>	<b>Result (µg/Kg)</b>
A	11.5 - 12	<20.5
A	13.5 - 14	<20.1
B	13 - 13.5	<22
B	14 - 14.5	<20.4
B	14 - 14.5D	<20.4*
C	11 - 11.5	<18.9
C	14 - 14.5	<19.8
D	13.5 - 14	<19.4
D	14 - 14.5	287

\*Duplicate Sample

Due to the presence PCBs in the surrounding soil and the future land reuse change, WRAMC will remove the transformer, vault and surrounding contaminated soil. The surrounding soil will be excavated to levels of less than 1 part per million PCBs. The excavation will be backfilled using clean soil.

WRAMC is requesting concurrence to the above actions. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Mauer at 202-812-7398, and at [Erin.C.Mauer.Civ@mail.mil](mailto:Erin.C.Mauer.Civ@mail.mil).

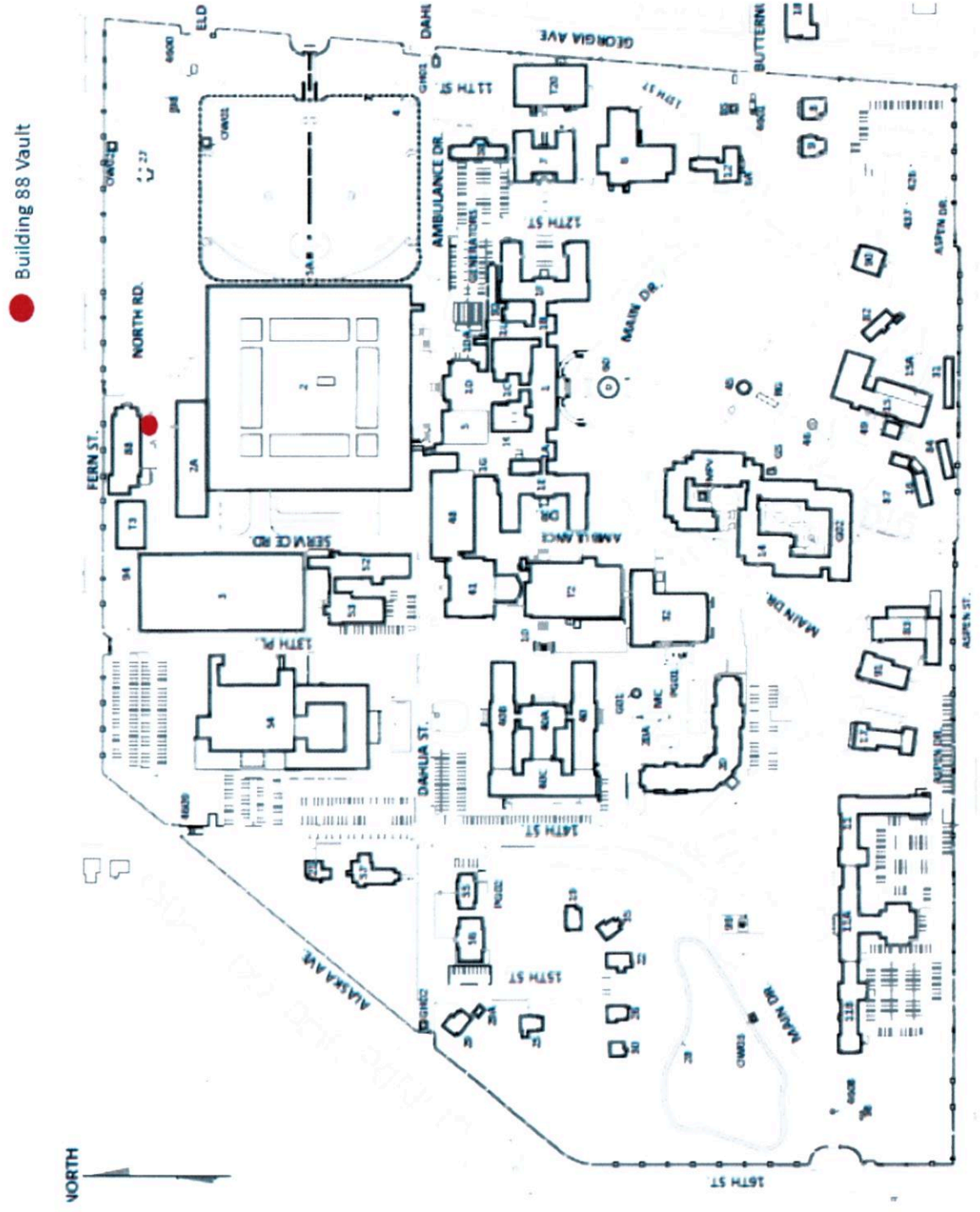


Markus Craig  
Program Manager, BRAC Division

Enclosure

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Figure 1: Site Map





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Dear Ms. Bunker:

The purpose of this letter is to provide the Environmental Protection Agency with notification of a Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) Self-Implemented Clean-up action at an abandoned transformer vault on the southeastern side of Building 1 at the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC), located at 6900 Georgia Ave, NW Washington DC. See figure 1 for the vault's location. The removal date of the transformer within the vault is unknown. The area around Building 1 will be transferred to the District of Columbia Local Redevelopment Authority for mixed institutional and corporate reuse.

In 2016, WRAMC collected four wipe samples on the floor of this transformer vault. All four sample results were above the TSCA allowable limit of  $10 \mu\text{g}/100 \text{ cm}^2$ . Wipe samples were collected in accordance with the standard wipe test definition described in 40 CFR 761.3 and 761.123. See Table 1 below for the results.

Table 1. Abandoned Transformer Vault Floor Wipe Sample Results

<b>Sample Number</b>	<b>Result (<math>\mu\text{g}/100 \text{ cm}^2</math>)</b>
X01	8,300
X02	21,000
X03	17,000
X04	370



Due to the elevated PCBs levels in this transformer vault, WRAMC will remove the vault and surrounding contaminated soil. The surrounding soil will be excavated to levels of less than 1 part per million PCBs. The excavation will be backfilled using clean soil.

WRAMC is requesting concurrence to the above actions. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Mauer at 202-812-7398, and at [Erin.C.Mauer.Civ@mail.mil](mailto:Erin.C.Mauer.Civ@mail.mil).

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Markus Craig". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Markus Craig  
Program Manager, BRAC Division

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Figure 1: Site Map

